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Approved For Release 2003/01/24 : CIA-RDP63-00342A000500040089-6

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18 April 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
VIA: Deputy Director (Research)
SUBJECT: Requirements for U-2
Coverage of Southern Laos

1. Recent Special Group approval for U-2 coverage of Northern Laos (see Minutes of 11 April) was responsive to the COMOR requirements as set forth in COMOR recommendation to the USIB (see USIB-D-41.14/21; COMOR-D-25/22).

2. While the Special Group action was in development it became known that [redacted]

Although CINCPAC has requested such overflight to meet his requirements in Southern Laos, the JCS is awaiting the results of additional U-2 coverage of Laos before requesting permission of the Special Group. While both [redacted] and DOD will require frequent and timely coverage to meet their continuing needs, coverage of Southern Laos targets by the U-2 will be very helpful pending a resolution by the JCS and Special Group of the question of resumption of military tactical reconnaissance.

3. Recommendation: COMOR recommends that at the Special Group meeting this Thursday you advise the Special Group of this situation and of your intention to include targets in Southern Laos, insofar as possible, into the flight plan which is now proceeding on the basis of the Special Group approval reached in paragraph 1 above which relates to Northern Laos.

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[redacted]
James Q. Reber
Chairman

Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance

CONCUR:

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Deputy Director
(Research)

Date

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